

## Other Cancers of Interest

- **Prostate Cancer:** There were fewer than 5 deaths per year for prostate cancer since 1980. There are no national or state goals for prostate cancer deaths.
- **Cervical Cancer:** There were fewer than 5 deaths per year for cervical cancer since 1980.

For more information please contact:

- American Cancer Society, (360) 693-1259, or 1-800-729-1151
- American Lung Association, 1-800-732-9339
- Breast and Cervical Health Project, (360) 576-6349
- Southwest Washington Medical Center, Cancer Center, (360) 256-2174

Sources:

SWWHD, *Reviewing the Health of Skamania County*, 1997 Update, 1997.



For further information please contact  
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## Southwest Washington Health District

# Cancer

## in Skamania County

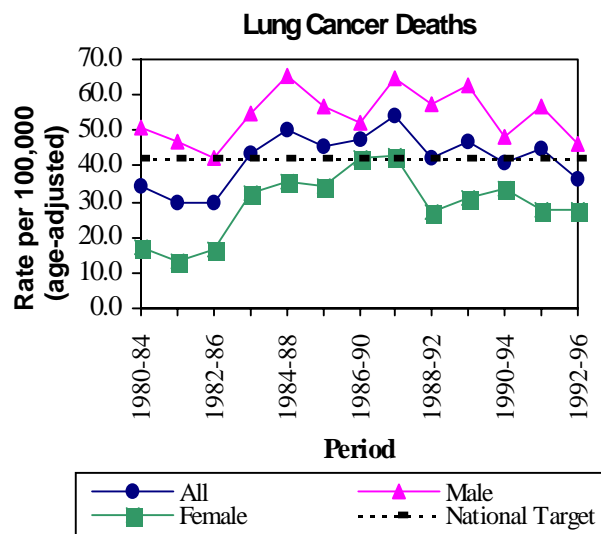


Cancer is a group of illnesses characterized by uncontrolled growth and spread of abnormal cells. It is a major cause of death in Skamania County, Washington State, and the United States. An estimated one in three Americans will be diagnosed with cancer during their lives. For this reason we focus our efforts toward promotion of healthy behaviors to prevent cancer or detect it early. Three areas of focus in Skamania County are lung, breast, and colorectal cancers.

## Lung Cancer

In many cases, lung cancer can be prevented. Lung cancer causes more deaths than any other cancer.

- 23 Skamania County residents died from lung cancer from 1992 to 1996.
- The death rate is more than one and a half times as high for men than for women in Skamania County.
- The rate of lung cancer deaths for women in Skamania County increased more than one and a half times from 1980-84 to 1992-96.



- Skamania County's lung cancer death rate met the national target goal of 42 per 100,000 in 1992-96.
- Tobacco use is the leading cause of lung cancer.

## Female Breast Cancer

Most cases of breast cancer are identifiable at an early stage by self-breast exams, clinical exams, and mammograms.

- Seven women in Skamania County died from breast cancer from 1992 through 1996 resulting in a death rate higher than that of Washington State.
- After reaching a high point between 1988 and 1992, the Skamania County breast cancer death rate declined but has not met the national target of 20.6 deaths per 100,000 women.
- Nationally, one in nine women are diagnosed with breast cancer by age 85.

## Colorectal Cancer

Colorectal cancer in Skamania County has risen during the past ten years after a period of sharp decline.

- Skamania County's colorectal cancer death rate was higher than the national target goal of 13.2 per 100,000 and is getting worse.
- Men die more often from colorectal cancer than do women but the difference is small.

